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Attorney's Docket No.: 06543-008002

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

FACSIMILE

FOR THE PERSONAL ATTENTION OF:

EXAMINER PAULA SMITH

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Number of pages Including this page 22

Applicant : Payne et al.
Serial No. : 08/878,396
Filed : June 18, 1997

Art Unit : 2414
Examiner : Paula Smith

FACSIMILE COMMUNICATION

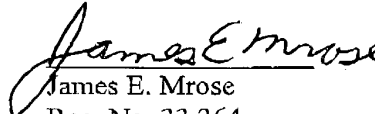
Title : NETWORK SALES SYSTEM

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Pursuant to your request we attach to this facsimile communication cover sheet a copy of Paper Number 3, a preliminary amendment filed June 24, 1998, faxed this day of January 9, 2002, to Group, the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 9, 2002


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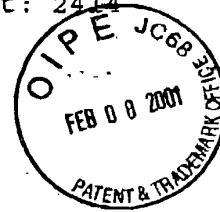
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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend claims 1-12 and add new claims 13-36 as follows:

1. (Amended) A network-based sales system, comprising:
a merchant database comprising a plurality of digital advertisements and a plurality of respective product fulfillment items;

at least one creation computer for creating said merchant database; and

at least one merchant computer for causing said digital advertisements to be transmitted to a user and for causing advertised products to be transmitted to said user;

said creation computer and said merchant computer being interconnected by a computer network;

said creation computer being programmed to create said merchant database, and to transmit said digital advertisements and said product fulfillment items to said merchant computer;

Date of Deposit

6/22/98

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Kimberly D. Maxwell

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